

# **SECTION 1**

## **RESPONSE TO COMMENTS**

## RESPONSE TO COMMENTS

### INTRODUCTION

This document comprises the Comments and Responses volume of the Final Environmental Impact Report (EIR) for the proposed Long Beach Sports Park project. The purpose of this document is to respond to all comments received by the City of Long Beach (City) regarding the environmental information and analyses contained in the Draft EIR.

As required by the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) Guidelines Section 15087, a Notice of Completion (NOC) of the Draft EIR for the Long Beach Sports Park project was filed with the State Clearinghouse on December 15, 2004, and the Notice of Availability (NOA) of the Draft EIR was filed with the Los Angeles County Clerk on December 15, 2004. In addition, the NOA was posted at City Hall and was mailed to approximately 140 public agencies, private citizens, and groups that had requested to be notified of the availability of the Draft EIR. The NOA was also mailed to approximately 280 property owners and/or tenants within a 500-foot radius of the project site. The NOA was also published in the Press Telegram on December 15, 2004.

The Draft EIR was circulated for public review for a period of 60 days, from December 15, 2004, to February 14, 2005. Copies of the Draft EIR were distributed to all Responsible Agencies and to the State Clearinghouse in addition to various public agencies, citizen groups, and interested individuals. Copies of the Draft EIR were also made available for public review at three Long Beach Public Libraries, including Long Beach Main Library, Dana Neighborhood Library, and Burnett Neighborhood Library, and online via the City's Web site.

Comments were accepted for a period of 60 days (rather than the minimum of 45 days required by CEQA) in order to ensure adequate time for residents and agencies to comment on the Draft EIR. Thirty-one comment letters were received during the public review period. Comments were received from State and local agencies, organizations, interested parties, and private citizens. Comments that address environmental issues are thoroughly responded to. In some cases, corrections to the Draft EIR are required, or additional information is provided for clarification purposes. Comments that (1) do not address the adequacy or completeness of the Draft EIR; (2) do not raise environmental issues; or (3) do request the incorporation of additional information not relevant to environmental issues do not require a response, pursuant to Section 15088(a) of the State CEQA Guidelines.

Section 15088 of the State CEQA Guidelines, Evaluation of and Response to Comments, states:

- a) The lead agency shall evaluate comments on environmental issues received from persons who reviewed the draft EIR and shall prepare a written response. The lead agency shall respond to comments received during the noticed comment period and any extensions and may respond to late comments.
- b) The written response shall describe the disposition of significant environmental issues raised (e.g., revisions to the proposed project to mitigate anticipated impacts or objections). In

particular, major environmental issues raised when the lead agency's position is at variance with recommendations and objections raised in the comments must be addressed in detail, giving the reasons that specific comments and suggestions were not accepted. There must be good faith, reasoned analysis in response. Conclusory statements unsupported by factual information will not suffice.

- c) The response to comments may take the form of a revision to the draft EIR or may be a separate section in the final EIR. Where the response to comments makes important changes in the information contained in the text of the draft EIR, the lead agency should either:
1. Revise the text in the body of the EIR; or
  2. Include marginal notes showing that the information is revised in the responses to comments.

Information provided in this Response to Comments document clarifies, amplifies, or makes minor modifications to the Draft EIR. No significant changes have been made to the information contained in the Draft EIR as a result of the responses to comments, and no significant new information has been added. Therefore, this Response to Comments document is being prepared as a separate section of the EIR and is included as part of the Final EIR for consideration by the Planning Commission and the City Council prior to a vote to certify the Final EIR.

## INDEX OF COMMENTS RECEIVED

The following is an index list of the agencies, groups, and persons who commented on the Draft EIR prior to the close of the public comment period or immediately thereafter. The comments received have been organized in a manner that facilitates finding a particular comment or set of comments. Each comment letter received is indexed with a number below.

Letter Number	Name	Date
A-1	Department of the Army, Corps of Engineers	December 29, 2004
A-2	State of California, Department of Conservation	January 27, 2005
A-3	State of California, Department of Health Services	January 11, 2005
A-4	Southern California Association of Governments	January 20, 2005
A-5	City of Signal Hill	March 2, 2005
A-6	County of Los Angeles, Department of Public Works	March 22, 2005
A-7	State of California, Department of Toxic Substance Control	February 14, 2005
A-8	State of California, Department of Transportation	January 26, 2005
A-9	State of California, Governor's Office of Planning and Research	February 15, 2005
A-10	County of Los Angeles, Fire Department	May 10, 2005
O-1	Be Community Friendly! Children's Day USA	February 7, 2005
O-2	Be Community Friendly! Children's Day USA	February 7, 2005
O-3	University of California, Los Angeles	February 8, 2005
O-4	Long Beach Organic	February 8, 2005
O-5	The Gabrielino Tongva Tribal Council of the Gabrielino Tongva Nation	February 14, 2005
O-6	Los Cerritos Wetland Trust Friends of Willow/Spring Gulch	Not dated

<b>Letter Number</b>	<b>Name</b>	<b>Date</b>
O-7	California State University, Long Beach, Department of Anthropology	February 14, 2005
P-1	Lou Anna Denison	February 3, 2005
P-2	Summer Hansen	February 7, 2005
P-3	Richard Harter	February 14, 2005
P-4	Karen Ashikeh LaMantia	February 7, 2005
P-5	Karen Ashikeh LaMantia	February 7, 2005
P-6	Karen Ashikeh LaMantia	February 2, 2005
P-7	Karen Ashikeh LaMantia	February 2, 2005
P-8	Karen Ashikeh LaMantia	February 7, 2005
P-9	Karen Ashikeh LaMantia	February 7, 2005
P-10	Karen Ashikeh LaMantia	February 7, 2005
P-11	Joseph Weinstein	February 14, 2005
P-12	David Sunderstorm	February 14, 2005
P-13	Students of 302L-04, Project Studio "Regenerating Long Beach"	Not dated
P-14	Bernice Van Steenberg	January 11, 2005

## FORMAT OF RESPONSES TO COMMENTS

Responses to each of the comment letters are provided on the following pages. The comment letter is provided in the upper-right corner of each comment letter, and individual points within each letter are numbered along the right-hand margin of each letter. The City's responses to each comment letter immediately follow each letter and are referenced by the index numbers in the margins.